

FIRST CLASS MAIL



THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.  
P.O. Box 88, ABINGTON, PA 19001

A Publication of

# The Blurb

SEP 19 1994



JACK HARING  
VIRGINIA HARING - W3IIM  
2113 Edgehill Drive  
Furlong PA 18926

W3IIM  
R





# The Blurb

September 1994

## THE LEAVES SO BROWN.

BACK TO THE BOOKS

TKQ CODE NET

SUNDY SOUTH

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!

ED KB3IN  
TREASURER

STEVE WUBI  
PRESIDENT

LET IT SNOW  
LET IT SNOW

## CAME TUMBLING DOWN IT'S SEPTEMBER!



## VOLUME 44

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. *Blurb* subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets sometime after 7:30 p.m. on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street, or the parking garage on 21st street.

**ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 p.m. - **SHARP!**

**CLUB INFORMATION**

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ: **(215) 448-1139**

Repeater frequencies: 147.03 MHz (Roxboro input requires no PL, but outputs 91.5 Hz.)

PL required for off-site receiver (OSR) access:

Bucks County 131.8 Hz—Center City 103.5 Hz—Lansdale 114.8 Hz

444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz

Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ: 144.99 MHz

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

**STATIONS**

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG

**AMATEURS (with license) ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.**

**OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 (215) 572-5238

1st VICE PRESIDENT: WU3I, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-8061

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: W3STW, Al Tribble, 2848 Carter Road, Trevoise, PA 19053 (215) 639-6771

SECRETARY: KE3CZ, Bob Wilcox, P.O. Box 21914, Philadelphia, PA 19124 (215) 535-7355

TREASURER: N3KGG, Dave Witkowski, 730 Greymont Street, Philadelphia, PA 19116 (215) 969-5485

**DIRECTORS**

W3BBB (94); N3FVI (94); AA3EP (95); W3IRS (95); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); W3RM (A)

**COMMITTEES**

Archives: W3IIM  
*Blurb* Folding: WB3KOH&J  
Budget /Audit: K3KUD  
Directory: WB3KOJ  
Education: AA3CH  
Emerg. Coord.: W3BBB

Field Day: N3IEI  
Membership: AA3BB  
Net Control: KB3IV  
Program: WU3I  
Publicity: N3IEI  
Refreshments: N3FVI

Repeater: W3BBB  
Special Events: AA3EP  
VE Program: ND3Q  
TVI: W3VVS  
W3TKQ: KB3IV  
Welcome: NEEDED

**Blurb STAFF**

Editor: W3IIM, Jack Haring, 2113 Edgehill Drive, Furlong, PA 18925 (215) 794-7623

Artist: N3QIE

Labels: WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIM

**DEADLINE:** To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

**NET SCHEDULE**

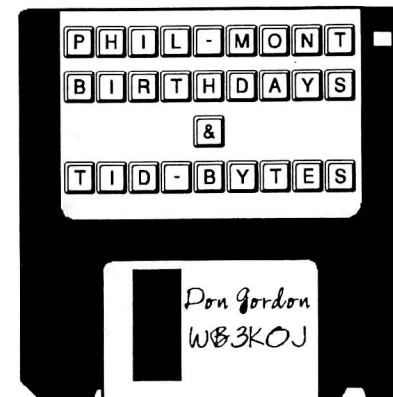
SUNDAY 09:30 147.030 MHz FM "SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"  
10:00 28.993 MHz SSB "10-ON-10 NET"  
10:20 3.993 MHz SSB 75 METER NET  
TUESDAY 20:00 147.030 MHz FM CW PRACTICE NET  
LAST WED 20:00 147.030 MHz FM W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 02 Greg Malone - N3FSC
  - 03 Marian Fox - WA3YJR
  - 05 George Walmsley - WO3D
  - 06 Len Kovnat - WB3JUA
  - 08 Al Bubeck - K3GNM  
Bill Hagerty - AA3BB
  - 13 Marge Concordia (XYL WB3KAC)
  - 14 Lori Shoemaker (XYL AA3EM\*)
  - 15 Bob Freer - W3YLT
  - 17 Vikye Swanson (XYL N3GLH)
  - 19 Miriam Kravitz - KB2EUA (XYL KD2CR)
  - 20 Jack Spratt - N3ALW
  - 21 Hal Fox - W3AA
  - 23 Patricia Mannio (XYL WA3NSP)  
Russ Stafford - AA3CH
  - 25 Vera Hoffman (XYL N3OOM\*)  
Pat Lewis (XYL N3MUG)
  - 26 Paul Ives - W3SMA
  - 30 Kim Sellers (XYL KB3AHQ)
- \*Indicates New Member 1993-94*

**UPCOMING DIRECTORY SUPPLEMENT**

With the October *Blurb* you will receive a 1994 Membership Directory Supplement which will contain information on new members, plus corrections and additions that I have received during the last six months. If you have any changes that you would like included, I must have them by October 12.

**HELP PHIL-MONT**

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership? Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club, contact the Treasurer, Dave Witkowski, N3KGG for details.

**MEMBERSHIP STATS**

At press time P.M.R.C. has:

172 Regular  
18 Family  
3 Honorary  
5 Pending

**"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy ♪!**

**"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy ♪!**

## GOODIES

Butternut Antenna model HF6V  
Stub-tuned radial kit STR-II  
Both brand new in carton ..... \$60  
Pick-up only  
Charlie, W3ZPP (610) 265-2284

Radio Shack HTX-202 2-meter  
hand-held, two months old,  
mint condition ..... \$160  
Bob, WA3INW (215) 782-1763

### ~~~WANTED~~~

19" open rack frame, 5'-6' tall  
Jack, W3IIM (215) 794-7623

## RADIO FEES INCREASED

The Federal Communications Commission has increased the cost for obtaining or renewing a license to operate a VHF-FM radio aboard a recreational boat. As of July 18, the license cost went from \$35 to \$115; the term of the license was increased to ten years.

Boating groups had protested the increase, saying that it would mean boaters might not choose to license their radios (an offense punishable by a steep fine), or might not even carry radios aboard.

Marine VHF radios are considered important to boating safety because in many cases the radio is the only way to communicate distress on the water. The FCC hiked fees for all licenses, from television stations to airplanes, and the action was mandated by Congress to reflect the increased cost of operating the agency.

*Chesapeake Bay Magazine*

## REPORT CARD

The following is a report on the amateur radio class held at The Franklin Institute, during the week of August 1st through the 5th:

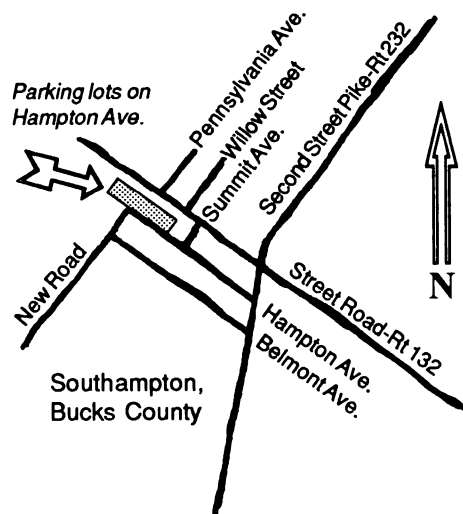
22 signed up; 18 showed up; 13 graduated.

So far, reported back to me from the Levittown testing on Saturday, August 6th:

1 student passed her elements 2 & 3A  
1 student passed her element 2  
1 student passed his element 2  
1 student passed his element 1A & 2 & 3A  
No other reports back from students.  
*Russ Stafford, AA3CH, Chairman*

### Mid-Month at C H I Institute

Evening classes will be in session, so your best bet is to park in the eastern-most of the three lots behind the school. Enter via the rear entrance which extends the farthest behind the buildings. Walk up the stairs, and continue straight to classroom 14, which is at the end of the hall. Talk-in on '03.



## The PREZ SEZ

Ed Masarsky, KB3IV



**S**haron and I returned from our Cape Cod vacation to find the repeater, the club, and 'TKQ still alive and well. I can't say the same for our bank account, but it was worth it.

There is a lot of 2-meter activity on the Cape, and strangers are made to feel welcome. There was no activity on the 70cm band up there, but I understand once you get on the mainland, 440 is well covered.

I also found out that 220 is also very active in New England. Boy, they sure do "tawk" funny up there!

I was told that I missed a terrific presentation on my favorite ham radio activity at the August general meeting. Many thanks to Bob-KE3CZ for his informative and entertaining program on packet. It even inspired Don-WB3KOJ to start getting on packet bulletin boards. He doesn't have a TNC, but found out his modem would

link him up with other packeteers. If this keeps up, I may have to learn to touch type!

One day this month your phone will ring, and the person on the other end will be the nominating committee chairperson. *Don't say no. Don't say maybe.* If you are called it's because the club needs your help, and knows you are the right person for the job. Say yes, and help us continue in our 46th year to improve and promote our hobby, and to offer members and the amateur community interesting, informative and instructional activities and programs.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our September meeting when our program chairman has lined-up a representative from Bell Atlantic to tell us about the "Information Superhighway." Many of us are already on the access ramp, and would like to know where it's going to take us. This is your chance to find out. ☺



## UPCOMING

- Sept 1 License Examinations at  
The Franklin Institute
- Sept 7 General Meeting Program:  
The Information Superhighway  
Robert Graves of Bell Atlantic

- Sept 21 Directors' Meeting at  
C H I Institute

- Oct 5 General Meeting Program:  
Slow-Scan TV  
Al Tribble, W3STW

- Oct 6 License Examinations at  
The Franklin Institute

- Oct 19 Directors' Meeting

## HAMFESTS

- Sept 11 GAITHERSBURG, MD  
Foundation for Amateur Radio
- Sept 18 PENNSAUKEN, NJ  
South Jersey RA
- Sep 24-25 YORK, PA
- Oct 2 WARRINGTON, PA  
Pack Rats
- Oct 16 BENSALEM, PA  
Penn Wireless Association
- Oct 23 SELLERSVILLE, PA  
RF Hill ARC

Call

**1-800-32-NEW-HAM**

for free information for  
prospective hams

## V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. **The ARRL VEC's 1994 test fee is \$5.75; there is no charge for a Novice test.**

- **The FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**  
Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q  
(215) 879-0505 day, (215) 482-0386 home
- **BELLMAR, NJ**  
Monthly, 3rd Thursday—Bill Helmatag  
(609) 546-7710
- **BRYN MAWR**  
Irregularly—Bob Lees  
(215) 265-6032
- **LEVITTOWN**  
Monthly, 1st Saturday—George LeNoir, WR3B  
(215) 943-4886
- **LINWOOD, PA**—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)  
Quarterly—Barb Levine, AA3DV  
(215) 859-9210, (302) 792-7760 home
- **MORRISVILLE**  
Monthly, 3rd Thursday—Dave Munson, NM3K  
(215) 788-7515
- **POTTSTOWN**  
Monthly, 1st Monday—Warren Erdman K3ZXQ  
(215) 679-5764
- **TELFORD**  
Monthly, 3rd Monday—Warren Erdman K3ZXQ  
(215) 679-5764
- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**  
Monthly, Last Saturday—Garrett Klein, WZ3G  
(215) 898-8538 shack, (215) 222-8752 home
- **WARMINSTER**  
Odd Months, Last Wed.—Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ  
(215) 343-3494

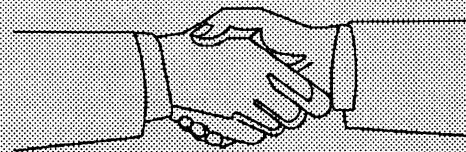
### The Gettysburg Address

(which is not printed on the new 610 forms)

Federal Communications Commission  
1270 Fairfield Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP (215) 324-0167  
Sept 17-18 M.S. 150 City-to-Shore Bike Tour



## NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

<b>CALL:</b>	<b>KA4LIF</b>	<b>CALL:</b>	<b>N3SYK</b>
<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Thomas Scott</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Robert Daglt</b>
<b>HANDLE:</b>	<b>Thom</b>	<b>HANDLE:</b>	<b>BeeDee</b>
<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>Technician Plus</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>7034 Gillespie Street Philadelphia, PA 19135</b>	<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>444 Levering Mill Road Merion Station, PA 19066</b>
<b>HOME PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 331-1118</b>	<b>HOME PHONE:</b>	<b>(610) 664-5859</b>
<b>BUSINESS PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 823-6307</b>	<b>BUSINESS PHONE:</b>	<b>Research Physicist</b>
<b>OCCUPATION:</b>	<b>Medical Technologist</b>	<b>OCCUPATION:</b>	
<b>INTERESTS:</b>	<b>W3TKQ, Refreshments</b>	<b>INTERESTS:</b>	
<b>CALL:</b>	<b>N3SPZ</b>	<b>CALL:</b>	<b>(pending)</b>
<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Marjorie Mendelson</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Martin Weinberg</b>
<b>HANDLE:</b>	<b>Margie</b>	<b>HANDLE:</b>	<b>Mart</b>
<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>Technician Plus</b>	<b>CLASS:</b>	<b>General</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>36 E. Willow Grove Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19118</b>	<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>1919 Waverly Road Laverock, PA 19038-7239</b>
<b>HOME PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 248-1486</b>	<b>HOME PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 572-1099</b>
<b>BUSINESS PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 952-6216</b>	<b>BUSINESS PHONE:</b>	<b>(215) 885-4244</b>
<b>OCCUPATION:</b>	<b>Teaching Librarian</b>	<b>OCCUPATION:</b>	<b>Manufacturer's Representative</b>
<b>INTERESTS:</b>	<b>Directory</b>	<b>INTERESTS:</b>	

### Didja ever wonder...

Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor, when you can't drink and drive?  
Why isn't phonetic spelled the way it sounds?  
Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?  
Why are there flotation devices under airplane seats instead of parachutes?  
Why are cigarettes sold in gas stations when smoking is prohibited there?  
How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work in the morning?  
If a 7-11 is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, why are there locks on the doors?  
If a cow laughed, would milk come out of her nose?  
If nothing ever sticks to teflon, how do they make teflon stick to the pan?  
If your vehicle goes at the speed of light, what happens when you turn-on the headlights?  
Why do they put braille dots on the keypad of the drive-up ATM?  
Why do we park on driveways, and drive on parkways?  
Why is brassiere singular, and panties plural?  
Why is it when you transport something by car, it is called a shipment, and when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo?  
You know that little indestructible black box that's used on airplanes? Why can't they make the entire plane out of the same substance?  
Why is it that when you're driving and looking for an address, you turn-down the volume on the radio?

## It's The Jim and Perry Show!

Al Tribble, W3STW

On Monday 25 July, Jim-W3BBB, and Perry-N3AXJ, were WHY "Radio Time" (90.9 FM 11a.m. until noon) talk-show guests, and were interviewed by talk-show hostess Marty Moss-Cone. The subject was Amateur Radio.

WHYY program director Peggy Nelson had contacted Elaine Wilner, The Franklin Institute Science Museum (TFI) public relations manager, for information about Amateur Radio, and the possibility of a couple of Amateur Radio operators participating in a future talk-show.

Elaine knew that TFI had an Amateur Radio exhibit, amateur radio station W3TKQ. The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club (PMRC) oversees W3TKQ station operations, and PMRC could help.

Jim, a major contributor in construction of the new W3TKQ (circa 1991), and Perry, a long-time W3TKQ station operator, were a natural fit for this request.

They discussed Commercial, Citizens Band and Amateur Radio operations, similarities and differences. Jim and Perry also spoke on the origin of PMRC and W3TKQ.

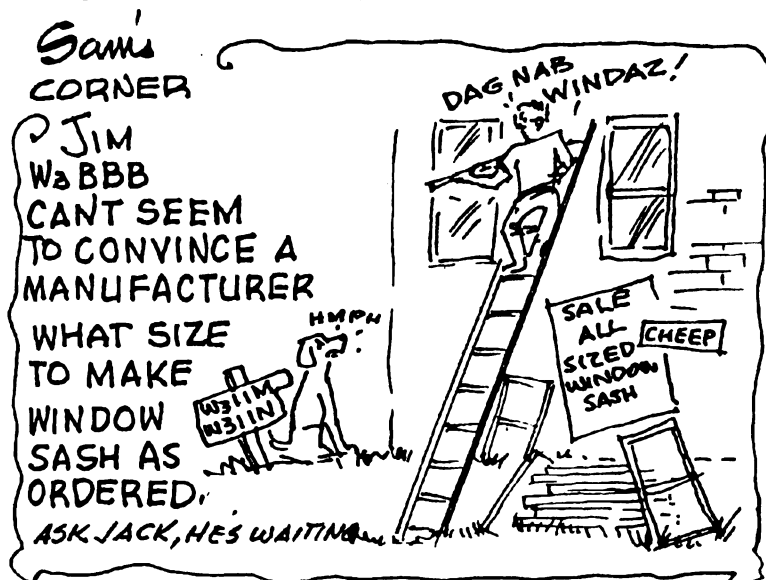
My hat's off to these two amateurs, because not only did they answer Marty's questions, but questions from the listening audience calling into the show. These two were under the gun for at least 45 minutes without a prepared script. Believe me it is not easy, but Jim and Perry made it sound easy.

The question that raised the most comment was what is the origin of the word "ham." Our correct title is Amateur Radio, however people use "ham" radio. While Jim and Perry had their own version, they both agreed that the origin of the term "ham" is unknown.

Of the many callers with their version of the where the term "ham" came from, this one, I think, tops them all.

The wife of an amateur said the term came from the "radio shack" because it looked like a place where only a pig would live. Rather than call the people in these "radio shacks" pigs, they were called hams.

Again, many thanks to Jim and Perry for a fine interview. Another service from the PMRC to TFI. ☺



## MINUTES

## AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ, Secretary



The 535th General Meeting of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club was called to order by Steve-WU3I, acting President, at 7:33 p.m. Tyrant: if you're reading this, take notice!

First called to the carpet was the Treasurer, Dave-N3KGG. Dave reported that the club's funds were in sound order, but that he had accidentally left the actual figures behind. N3PSO made a motion that the financial report be printed in the *Blurb* at the next printing. The motion was seconded by N3KGGH, the motion was unanimously approved. Now we will see how many people read the *Blurb* and get the report.

WU3I, for programs, announced the W3S, would give his, T, Slooooo Scan TV Program, W, in October, as opposed to the previously reported September meeting. A program for the September meeting on the Information Highway was being worked on.

AA3BB for Membership: there were two candidates to be voted on at the August director's meeting. They are Frank-KD3MT, and Joyce-N2WHO (Who?). All those waiting for certificates or other membership material are asked to please be patient, the job doesn't pay much, even though the rewards are many, and all are being worked on at a feverish Senate-like pace.

WU3I (again) for Net Controls, and the absent Tyrant: if you have a desire to be a Net Control [station], contact Ed-KB3IV.

Steve thanked N3FVI for the refreshments, Bill was more anxious in reimbursement; thanks don't pay the rent.

AA3EP for the upcoming special event, the MS-150 Bike Tour: Charlie is starting to

sound desperate folks. I heard that he is offering to donate a pint of blood for every Phil-Monter that comes on board to lend a hand (Not!). We have 160+ members; Charlie is going to need a lot of donuts and orange juice... (I held back on the OJ joke). The event is the weekend of September 17-18.

WU3I (again, again) for the VE Program. 'Still takes place on the first non-holiday Thursday of the month at The Franklin Institute. Any General licensee or higher that would like to be a VE and help out, call Dusty-ND3Q at one of his numbers printed in the *Blurb*.

WU3I (again, again, again) for W3TKQ, reported that Arnie, the winner of the prior month's 50-50, donated his monitor to the station. (How much is that pot worth every month, anyhow?)

N3NLR for Welcoming: there were 27 members and 10 visitors attending. The visitors included Mim Roeshman (XYL of W3LKI), Charlye Johnson, Jr.-WN3PDB, Joe Pearlstein-NU3Y, Tom Scott-KA4LIF, Bill Henry-N3RPZ, Martin Weinberg, Bobby Palko III, Tom Maresca and Scott O'Donnell. A great turnout for a summer meeting, thanks to all for attending.

50-50 was sold by N3PDO, drawn by Bobby Palko III and won by N3OWM.

With no further business, yours truly, KE3CZ, gave a packet demo on the basics, as well as connected to Germany. Even the bored people looked interested. (It didn't have anything to do with the loaded .44 magnum on the table.)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m. (Hear that Tyrant?) ☺

## MINUTES

## AUGUST DIRECTORS' MEETING

Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Mr. President, KB3IV (Tyrant), at the palatial estate of W3IIM and W3IIN at 8:19 p.m.

Attending were N3DHI, WU3I, W3GQD, W3IIM, W3IIN, W3S-T-W, KB3IV, WB3KOJ, W3RM, AA3BB, N3KGG, N3PMA, K3GBA and KE3CZ. The pooch [doberwoman] was there too!

N3KGG for Treasury: Dave gave a sound report of the actual numbers, and they appear here per the motion of the general membership.

Beginning Balance (6-15-94) .....	\$ 2,050.21
Income .....	528.50
Expenses (hold on, folks) .....	1,057.64
Ending Balance (8-17-94) .....	\$ 1,521.07

Dave asked for ARRL renewals or membership applications be sent through him. Thanks for the report Dave; your fans still love you, both of them.

KB3IV asked about the General Meeting he was on vacation during, and I guess it went so well because he did not feel missed.

W3IIM reported that the *Blurb* is moving along, with articles being submitted at a good pace. Thanks to all who contribute.

W3IIN with regards to the Budget Committee, expect big cuts! (I am not sure she was saying that, or the fact that she was standing in the kitchen with a knife in hand made me think she said that.)

'KOJ for the Folding Committee, it's folded. Great job Donald, you are one of the few who do not get a lot of credit, but still do a lot of the work. (I must be getting soft.) Hey Don, you're a loser! The Directory should be out in the next *Blurb*!

W3BBB for Emergency Coordinator

functions... Jim was not present, but we understand that the emergency he had on the 4th hole, in the rough, was properly handled by a well placed grouping of trees.

AA3BB for Membership: There were two applications to take action on, Frank-KD3MT and Joyce-N2WHO. WU3I made a motion to accept, W3S-T-W seconded, there were no dissenting words. Welcome to the new members. Bill announced that he had some new applicants that would be printed in the next *Blurb*.

KB3IV is looking for some Net Control stations. Al, W3S-T-W, received more than a vote of confidence for his picking-up the net on the 7th, and he also received a copy of the script. He may be picking it up for the late or absent stations.

WU3I announced that the coming program would be about the "Information Superhighway," October will be Al with Slooow Scan TV ('IV pointing out that Al was Halfas.. er, Half Fast, November is Old Timers' Night, with elections held in December.

W3BBB sent along a list of things for the Board, and of course did not show up. How come when he is there, the only words he mutters is "it's working," but when he is not there, he has an agenda that is three pages long? The basic story is that Jim needs a covered place to store a large roll of 7/8" hard line, 'GQD has [refurbished the] 2 HW-101s for sale [by the club], 'QZO has finished the soon-to-be-installed talking S-meter circuit for the repeater (much to the grief of Meister III), and Jim will be working on the dedicated rig at 'TKQ in the next week or so. The infamous overhead projector/smoke alarm tester has been repaired

is here, and if the Amateur community values, as I think it does, the art of communication, then it must take greater responsibility for taking care of its own house, and telling its own story, and perpetuating its own identity.

The senior Amateur has to sit down with the beginner, and share a coffee and a microphone together. They have to make radio together. They have to pursue a DX opportunity, check into a net, and ragchew a little. The beginner has to fill out a few QSL cards in the shack of a senior ham. They have to make a little radio talk and share some dreams. The light has to be personally passed from candle to candle. It won't come from studying theory.

What is needed is a new vision, and it all begins with a different plan for entrance—a mentoring plan.

## A MENTORING PLAN

I could chisel out a code for entry into Amateur radio—a set of proposals and plans. But I leave that for others with a bent for bylaws and a sense of government. Briefly, I think that the time has come to provide an alternate route into ham radio. Keep the technical route intact, for those individuals who have a love for how radio works. This would provide a path for potential experimenters and innovators. They are an important part of the hobby.

For the rest, turn over the licensing process to the local clubs, and let them develop the hams of tomorrow through a mentoring process.

Clubs could be required to adhere to certain required guidelines when they process aspiring Amateurs. They could, for example, insist that aspiring Amateurs spend a specific number of hours on the air in the shacks of senior members. They could be required to draw antenna systems or take notes on how club members dealt with

problems of RF interference. A club may expect that aspiring hams do a study of radio protocol or even simulate possible QSOs.

The mentoring process may also have a practical component. Potential hams may be required to help erect antennas or do community work such as marshalling in Santa Claus parades. The possibilities are many and varied.

And while this is taking place, what is happening. Aspiring hams are learning that no ham is an island unto himself. The existing examining system encourages hams. A mentoring system would result in clubs knowing local hams, and it would expand the network so that the chances of abuse would be reduced. Besides that, what ham who has a well-developed sense of Amateur community would want to burn down the house he was born in?

Also, what local clubs giveth, local clubs can also taketh away. Hams who chose to enter through a mentoring process, would be known by the local ham fraternity—a sobering thought for any Amateur who might think of not respecting his license.

Our present system has traditionally been 'Big Brother' oriented.

At present, the ISC is responsible for examining, licensing, monitoring, and policing the bands. As their number of field inspectors has been outflanked by the increase in size in the Amateur community, their effectiveness has been reduced.

I think such a mentoring system as this, would result in the Amateur community becoming more self-governing. After all, who better understands Amateur radio than Amateur radio operators?

We need to become more involved with the licensing process. It's our hobby. It's our destiny. It's our tomorrow. ☺

*The Canadian Amateur Radio Magazine*  
via RF Hill's newsletter MHz Times.



## A Model for Change in the Amateur Radio Licensing Procedure

Part 2 of 2

Winston Sweeney, VE3WFS

### THE MENTOR MODEL

Today's entry process into ham radio takes place at arm's length from the hobby. The typical scenario is a knowledgeable Amateur teaching a class of students, who listen, read, answer questions, take notes, and perhaps do a few homework questions. The process is capped off with a multiple-choice examination issued by Industry Canada (IC). When all is said and done, the local club is pleased to learn that a good crop of hams has come to harvest.

Not good enough. Most of us are untouched by the process. We watch passively from a distance, and then judge whether or not we like the product. If we are dissatisfied with the results, we complain and write letters.

Interestingly, newly licensed Amateurs share many of the same concerns regarding licensing as older Amateurs. For instance, "We never practiced protocol" is heard again and again. New hams are left to learn operating procedures by the seat of their pants, when they take to the air.

Can you think of any other hobby where new entrants are greeted with an immediate sense of alienation? If you think new hams are untouched by this attitude, then ask yourself why so many of them seek older call signs to mask their time of arrival.

Since today's examinations reflect the value the Amateur community has for technical skills, it is out of step with the present age in the hobby. This value mirrors a respect for the tradition of radio—not the current practice of radio.

What is missing has something to do

with magic and passion. Senior hams naturally acquired this magic in their youth, in an age before the arrival of the home-video screen. It was more often then not acquired in the family parlour, where, the soft glow of light from the family radio warmed the night. It carried with it laughter and music. It softened the sounds of the winter winds, and it eased the hunger of the Great Depression. The voices of Foster Hewitt and Lorne Greene drifted over the winter landscape of Canada, and turned a land of distant villages, towns and cities, into a nation community.

Today's young ham knows nothing of that. He is the product of a different world. His source of magic is different. He is the product of a video culture. The magic of radio has been replaced by the magic of the screen and the keyboard. Video electronics, video games, joysticks and computers are as natural to the young ham of today as breathing itself.

If we want today's young ham to share our sense of passion and mystery for the hobby, then the classroom, and the multiple-choice examination is definitely not the route to take.

The total design of our hobby is wrapped up in one word—communication. Amateur radio is a hobby of communication. The brass key, the computer keyboard, the video screen, and the microphone are all means to a common end—communication. If older hams want to influence the design of the hobby, then they must communicate as never before—on a person-to-person level.

Who can better communicate their image of radio than hams themselves? A whole new age of Amateur communication

## 112<sup>TH</sup> MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS AUGUST

11 candidates passed 9 elements  
3 new amateurs plus 1 upgrades

VE team members:

Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman

Russ Stafford, AA3CH; Bob Wilcox, KE3CZ; Barb Levine, AA3DV;  
Arnold Cooper, AA3HO; Steve Hoch, WU3I; Wally Newell, K3JJO;  
Joel Kleinguenther, KA3SWU; Bob Freer, W3YLT

AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST  
NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

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and is ready to smoke, er work... the repeater has logged over 5.7 hours of transmit time per day (we are looking for a speech compression program that will take that down to 2.7 by crunching those who are long-winded). Jim, please show up next time, meetings are quicker when you're there!

N3KGG for AA3EP and Special Events: Dave made the same plea for help at this event that Charlie usually does. Pitch in, Phil-Mont.

WU3I for the VE Program, things are running smoothly, and if you are a VE, or would like to become one, call Dusty. It is a fine way to give back to a great hobby.

WU3I for W3TKQ, reported on correspondence with a gentleman from Japan who will be visiting the States, and who read about W3TKQ in the QST magazine article. He will be coming to operate the

Station. Shoichi Nishi—JH6NBW/NH2H will have probably visited the station by the time you read this. W3S-T-W asked about the phone system [voicemail menu] at the station, and was told that all was being worked on.

The dearth of sites for Mid-Month meetings was discussed.

### NEW BUSINESS

KE3CZ suggested that a committee for a banquet could be formed, with the intent to either have a late 45th Anniversary Banquet next year, or start the planning for a biggie for the club's 50th in 1999. Ed said that some action would be taken on this in the near future.

KB3IV will be looking for a Nominating Chairperson, so look out...

Motion to adjourn by WU3I, seconded by W3S-T-W, everybody got scarce. ☺

# THE W3TKQ REPORT

In July, The Franklin Institute had a record attendance of 100,919 visitors. This is the largest monthly attendance in nearly four years, and is an increase of nearly 30% over 1993! Many of these visitors stopped-by to experience ham radio for the first time. Thank You to the entire W3TKQ volunteer staff for making our visitors feel welcome.

You have probably been noticing our pleas, during the last few months, for additional volunteers. Good news: we have three prospective candidates who will be trained and added soon to the schedule. Thanks for your support.

Steve—WU3I just completed a rebuilding of the #2 dipole on the TS-950, to cover the upper portion of the 75-meter phone band. It will also now handle the entire 30-meter band, which should be great news to our CW freaks. Steve also reported a problem with the Rupp digital power and SWR meter, which is being evaluated as to whether we can fix it or if it must be returned to the manufacturer. We will let all operators know as soon as possible. Because of this situation, make sure that when you operate the '950, use the internal tuner to keep the rig happy, and pay attention to the antenna charts in the log book.

Come on down and visit us soon!  
—Ed Masarsky, KB3IV

## FREDWOOD S. SHAW, W3ADV 1906-1994

Fred was the first Trustee of W3TKQ in 1952, after convincing Dr. Wynn Laurence LePage, W3QCV, then Executive Vice President of The Franklin Institute, that amateur radio would be a "worthwhile exhibit." Fred served in this capacity until 1972, when he relinquished the position to Rolland Madera, W3PWG.

Fred was born in 1906, and was licensed in 1920, at the age of 13. During the second world war, he was involved in the Haverford Township Emergency Radio Network (HTERN), and when Fred and Dr. LePage collaborated to establish W3TKQ at The Institute, it was initially sponsored by that organization.

In 1960, due to declining membership in the HTERN, manning the station was becoming difficult, so Dr. LePage, now president, invited PMRC to take-over the responsibility, and in addition, hold its meetings at The Institute.

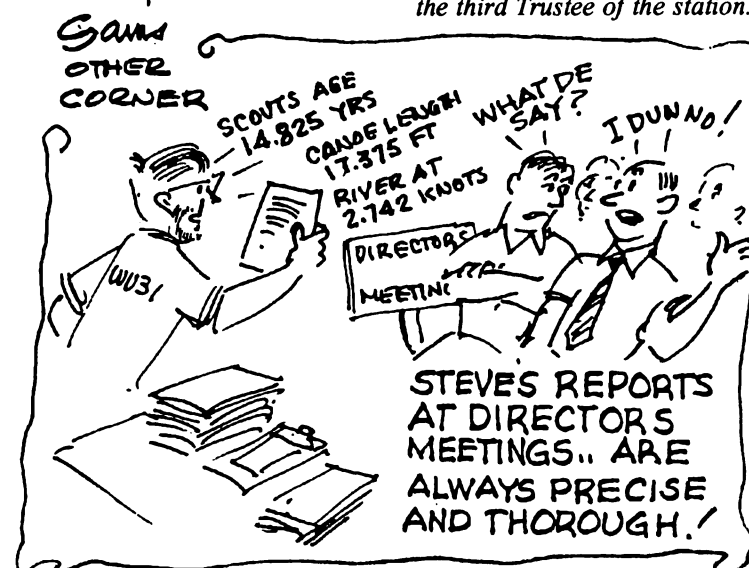
Fred graduated from West Catholic High School, and Temple University, and was employed by Bell Atlantic for 46 years. During this time one of Fred's tasks was the installation of the first microwave link between Wilmington and Newark Delaware.

In 1928 Fred married Emma McGuire, and they had three children: Dan, Carol and Kay, 9 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

In addition to Amateur Radio, Fred, was involved in the Aronimink Swim Club, serving as a director for 10 years while his daughters were competitive swimmers.

In later years Fred conceived and ran the Morning Glory Net on 75 meters with the Old Timers, and was very active in repairing rigs for many local hams (touted as an expert in repairing). ☺

*Editor's note: This article was written by Steve Hoch, WU3I, who recently became the third Trustee of the station.*





## DOD Declares GPS "IOC"

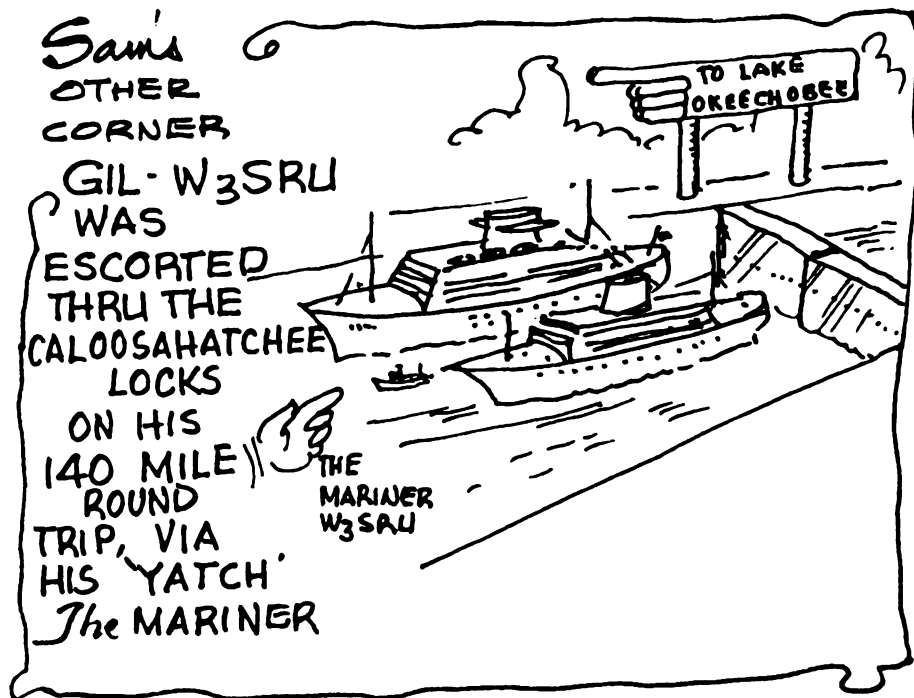
Got it? The headline really means that the Department of Defense (DOD) last December declared that GPS has achieved its Initial Operational Capability (IOC). The declaration made available to the Department of Transportation the GPS Standard Positioning Service (SPS) in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement on civil use of the GPS. Subsequent to IOC, the DOD must give the Coast Guard a minimum of 48 hours notice if it plans to disrupt SPS in peacetime.

SPS daily provides horizontal positioning accuracy within 100 meters (95-percent probability) and 300 meters (99.99-percent probability), vertical positioning accuracy within 140 meters (95-percent probability), and timing accuracy within

340 nanoseconds (95-percent probability). This implies that GPS horizontal errors more than 100 meters, but less than 300 meters, may occur five percent of the time, or about 1.2 hours per day. SPS specifications apply to signal tolerances, not receiver output. A receiver may introduce additional errors.

The latest GPS advisory has dropped the standard notice: "Users of GPS are cautioned that the system is not yet fully operational. Signal availability and accuracy are subject to change due to an incomplete satellite constellation and operational test activities," but reports broadcast by WWV at 14-15 minutes after the hour continue to air the standard notice. ☺

*Yachting*



## Cheap and easy antenna launching

*Colin Neal, N3LCU*

I have discovered through reading and experimentation that I can cheaply and easily get my wire antennas as high as 70 to 80 feet up into the trees at my place.

For equipment I use a simple sling shot (about \$8), a 500 yd. roll of 12 lb. monofilament (\$2), some 3/4 oz. lead sinkers (\$1), and an empty five-gallon bucket or cardboard box (free).

Wait for a sunny day with little or no wind. Sun makes the line easy to see; wind can get it hopelessly entangled in the tree branches. Tie a sinker to the monofilament, and pull off about 100 feet of line. Put the spool in the bucket and feed in the line. Just drop the line in the bucket; it will tend itself without becoming tangled.

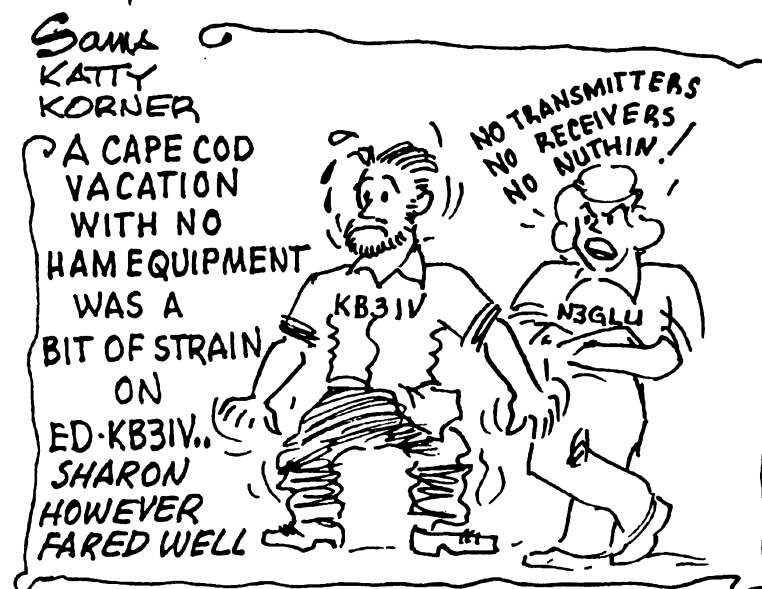
Place the sinker in the slingshot, and aim just above the desired support branch. A hefty pull on the slingshot will launch the sinker and line as high as 70 or 80 feet. If you miss, pull the line down and feed it back

into the bucket as before. You can break-off the sinker by pulling hard if it's stuck in the tree (that's why you need to buy several sinkers), but get behind another tree when you do so, otherwise you may hit yourself with the sinker. Once you're over the desired branch, pull more line off the spool, and lower the sinker to the ground. Attach a feeder line to the monofilament, hoist the feeder line over the branch, and then use that feeder line to hoist your antenna wire (the 12 lb. test monofilament is not strong enough to haul up most antennas).

Try it, it's cheap and easy, and it has worked great for me. One warning: Never shoot in a direction where a loose sinker could hit someone. With a real hefty pull or a tangle of line coming out of the bucket, you can break the sinker loose from the line, making it a potentially dangerous flying projectile.

I tried using an inexpensive closed-faced spinning reel to tend the line, but the friction in the system would seldom let me loft a sinker higher than 30 or 40 feet. I found that the "bucket" system of line tending was cheaper, faster and more efficient. ☺

*World Radio*

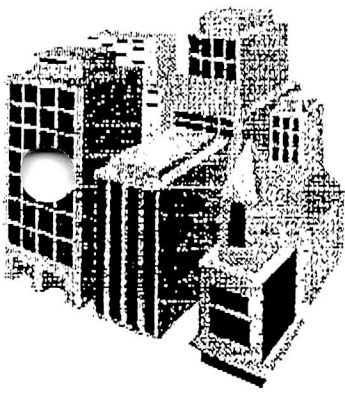


1994

## SEPTEMBER

1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> LICENSE EXAMS at <b>The Franklin Institute</b> Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 p.m. <i>sharp!</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 2M NCS W3GQD 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS W3PWG	<b>5</b>  <i>Labor Day</i>	<b>6</b>  <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	<b>7</b> GENERAL MEETING at <b>The Franklin Institute</b> Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. Meeting starts after 7:30	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 2M NCS NS3Y 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS AA3CH <i>Grandparents' Day</i> <i>Gaithersburg Hamfest</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  <i>Yom Kippur</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  <i>MS-150 Tour Begins</i>
<b>18</b> 2M NCS N3KGG 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS AA2FU <i>MS-150 Tour Ends</i> <i>Pennsauken Hamfest</i>	<b>19</b>  	<b>20</b> CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	<b>21</b> DIRECTORS' MEETING at C H I Institute	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  <i>Autumnal Equinox</i>	<b>24</b>  <i>York Hamfest Day-1</i>
<b>25</b> 2M NCS KB2ERL 10M NCS W3HFY 75M NCS KB3IV  <i>York Hamfest Day-2</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM W3RM	<b>28</b>  OPERATORS' NET at 8 PM	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<i>Guns cause crime</i> <i>like matches cause</i> <i>arson.</i>



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Charlie AA3EP  
Special Events & Public Service  
Committee

PS . Will all the people who have told me that they are going to send in their registration forms please send them in, as time is getting short and we need your information right away.